



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/719,002	11/20/2003	Nova Spivack	RN-P002	9098
26191	7590	11/16/2006		
FISH & RICHARDSON P.C. PO BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022				
			EXAMINER ROSE, HELENE ROBERTA	
			ART UNIT 2163	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/719,002	Applicant(s) SPIVACK ET AL.	
	Examiner Helene Rose	Art Unit 2163	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Detailed Action

1. In response to communications, No claims were amended; Claim 2, was cancelled; Claims 3-13 have been added;
2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection, based on the new added.

Drawings

3. In view of the drawings objected to because the drawings fail to show:
A. Figure 1, diagram 5 - (cited on page 15, lines 5-18); B. Figure 3, diagram 4 - (cited on page 16, line 13); C. Figure 6, diagram 4 - (cited on page 15, line 21); D. Figure 5, diagrams 10-12 - (cited on page 21, line 17 and page 18, line 6). Examiner withdraws the pending objection based on the amendment to the drawings and specification to overcome objection.

Specification

Abstract

4. In view of the abstract of the disclosure being objected to because it exceeded more than 150 words in length. Examiner withdraws the pending objection based on the amendment made to the abstract to overcome objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C- 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole

would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1 and 3-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wachtel (US Patent No. 6,847,9740, Date Filed: July 25, 2001) in view of Baer et al (US Patent No. 6,839,701, Date Filed: January 21, 2000).

Claim 1:

Regarding claim 1, Wachtel teaches a semantic object representing an entity or tacit information, the semantic object comprising:

semantic tags describing attributes of the entity or tacit information (column 11, lines 54-57, wherein a semantic descriptor such as a " person" semantic descriptor – interpreted to be the semantic tag. exposes methods to retrieve child elements – interpreted to be the attributes of the entity, that the person semantic descriptor includes, wherein these child elements could be other semantic descriptors such as " address" semantic descriptor or data descriptors such as " first name" data descriptor and " last name" data descriptors, Wachtel), including relationships to other semantic objects, to physical or software objects (Figure 5, all features, wherein it illustrates an ontological relationship between semantic constructs and their associated logical search objects, i.e. LSO' s, wherein legal entity class with two children classes, person, and cooperation, wherein each these classes include a child class and so forth, Wachtel), or to information existing in the mind of a human being (column 19, lines 55-63, wherein a suitable connection to an external data provider in the form of a human actor, and wherein screens in the high-level protocol sub-layer to connect to a human actor through manual entry input device such as a screen and keyboard, Wachtel); and

rules embodying goals column 6, line 62, wherein input rules, Wachtel, automation and other policies regarding how the semantic object interacts with (Figure 9, all features, wherein

it illustrates interaction and wherein its further defined in column 13, lines 47-51, Wachtel), is manipulated by (column 5, line 26, wherein manipulate a repository of logical search objects, Wachtel), and is displayed to human beings (see abstract, wherein graphical user interfaces provide facilities for creating search objects and aggregating logical search objects into workflow and services, wherein GUI is an display interface, Wachtel); and automatic processes (column 9, line 21, wherein automate business processes, Wachtel);

wherein a semantic object can be searched using semantic tags and meta-data contained in the semantic object (Figures 7a and 7b, wherein metadata is stored and column 11, lines 27-35, wherein metadata store provides persistence for configuration data used by logical search objects at execution time and wherein a search configuration includes, and so forth and wherein finally the search configuration includes reference to a logical search objects to use when performing a search at execution time, Wachtel).

Wachtel discloses the limitation above. However, Wachtel does not disclose wherein the meta-data being paired with the semantic tags and line and wherein the semantic tags can be extended by an owner of the semantic object and shared over a network. On the other hand, Baer discloses wherein the meta-data being paired with the semantic tags and line and wherein the semantic tags can be extended by an owner of the semantic object and shared over a network (Figures 22A and 22B, all features and columns 5-6, lines 65-67 and lines 1-2, wherein owner must specify which other patrons are to have access to the object, Baer). It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate Baer teachings into Wachtel system. A skilled artisan would have been motivated to combine as suggested by Baer at [column 1, lines 45-52], in order to present tailored information to a user. As a result, establishing an improved method to facilitate and manage relationships among content to improve the efficiency of on-line applications.

Art Unit: 2163

Claim 3 (New):

· Regarding Claim 3, the combination of Wachtel in view of Baer teaches the method comprising:

creating a semantic card that is configured to represent resource information or tacit information, the semantic card comprising tags for identifying semantic information (column 21, lines 20-24, wherein inside product element there may be multiple tags indicating parameters, Watchel), and rules regarding how the semantic card interacts with, is manipulated by, and is displayed to human beings and automated processes (column 6, line 62, wherein input rules; column 8, lines 44-51, wherein intelligent data assimilation system enforces business rules to particular business process, wherein these business rules are abstracted into a generalized mechanism in which an intelligent data assimilation system conditionally evaluates and determines an appropriate action; and column 6, lines 1-8, wherein data allow users to manipulate encapsulated data, and wherein it allows intelligent traversal and identification of any available information, Watchel);

seeking to detect an information resource containing information that can be represented by the semantic card (column 10, lines 42-54, wherein if a request is made to find, wherein find is equivalent to detect, the legal address of a person when the system receives the appropriate request, wherein the LSO to fetch the requested data, wherein each of these objects contacts a data provider and request and receives the appropriate data from the provider, Watchel); and

if the information resource is found, linking the semantic card to the information resource such that the semantic card represents the information resource, wherein the semantic card is also configured to have a link to or form any number of other semantic cards (Figures 9A and 9B, all features, wherein the interfaces are link thru diagram 113, Baer).

Art Unit: 2163

Claim 4 (New):

Regarding Claim 4, the combination of Wachtel in view of Baer teaches wherein the information resource is found, the method further comprising providing the semantic card with meta data about the information resource (column 11, lines 45-48, wherein semantic descriptor stored in the metadata store and lines 54-58, wherein semantic descriptor such as persons, first name and so forth is interpreted to be the metadata stored within the semantic descriptor, Wachtel).

Claim 5 (New):

Regarding Claim 3, the combination of Wachtel in view of Baer teaches wherein the information resource is not found, and wherein the semantic card represents the tacit information (column 5, lines 39-45, wherein a data provider can be a human factor receiving a request from the intelligent data assimilation system to find and return a data that is not electronically accessible, Wachtel; column 18, lines 8-10, wherein the connection adapter hides transport specific headers found within a data stream; and column 11, lines 63-67, wherein data descriptor is implanted by a generic data descriptor, and wherein class provides the set of methods that are not exposed in the data descriptor interface, and during initialization components creating descriptors use a concrete class to create set values, Wachtel).

Claim 6 (New):

Regarding Claim 6, the combination of Wachtel in view of Baer teaches wherein the semantic card is created before seeking to detect the information resource (column 89, lines 4-5, wherein new sequence id is stored in the PSF file and the content is stored into files residing in the same directory, Baer).

Claim 7 (New):

Regarding Claim 7, the combination of Wachtel in view of Baer teaches wherein the information resource is detected before creating the semantic card (column 1, lines 32-35, wherein a university professor would find value in creating custom textbooks tailored to a specific course from a pre-published textbooks stored in the content management system; column 85, lines 41-43, wherein when a user registers with the compilation system for the first time, he is assigned a guest status that authorized him to create and submit CBO' s, i.e. create a file object, and column 89, lines 7-13, wherein the product generator receives the input CBO files and reformats them into a desired publishing format and so forth, Baer).

Claim 8 (New):

Regarding Claim 8, the combination of Wachtel in view of Baer teaches wherein the information resource is detected upon the information resource being published (column 86, lines 29-32, wherein finding entities that are pre-fixed by the same sequence if and if entity is found, set it status to the published or unpublished and column 89, lines 13-16, wherein the resultant CBO frame maker files are now forwarded to publishing system, Baer).

Claim 9 (New):

Regarding Claim 9, the combination of Wachtel in view of Baer teaches wherein an entity that publishes the information resource triggers the creation of the semantic card (column 2, lines 17-28, wherein the user may create content, e.g. a new chapter or section for inclusion in the final compilation by inputting user-provided material through the web interface, wherein the stores and creates reusable, selectable object associated with the new content, Baer).

Claim 10 (New):

Regarding Claim 10, the combination of Wachtel in view of Baer teaches wherein the publisher further triggers publication of the semantic card (column 4, lines 8-15, wherein a path

for inputting content to the data repository, a path for enabling a user to select content and organization from the data repository through a web base interface, and a path that interfaces with a publishing system for creating the compilation of content from the user specification and lines 36-38, wherein content and other information is input to digital library through the input path, Baer).

Claim 11 (New):

Regarding Claim 11, the combination of Wachtel in view of Baer teaches wherein the semantic card is published upon being included in a directory of other semantic cards (column 4, lines 13-23, wherein a path that interfaces with a publishing system for creating the compilation of content from the user's specification, wherein each path will be described in detail below for creating custom textbooks, and the user group comprises university professors, wherein for example, the content stored in the system comprises a plurality of published textbooks, broken down into hierarchically related objects: book, volume, chapter and chapter subsection; and column 9, lines 3-9, wherein the Product Entity Group defines the constructs for storing pre-published works or "products" in the digital library 20, and wherein these products provide the content from which a user can build a compilation of content and the Program Entity Group defines categories for content, Baer).

Claim 12 (New):

Regarding Claim 12, the combination of Wachtel in view of Baer teaches providing search functionality in the directory (column 5, lines 48-50, wherein library server 44 additionally performs searches and routes requests to the appropriate object server 48 to store, retrieve, and update objects which is equivalent to search functionality; column 6, lines 3-10, wherein if a client request involves the storage, retrieval, or update of an object, library server 44 forwards the request to the object server 48 that contains or will store the object(s) referred to in the

Art Unit: 2163

request based upon information provided by library catalog 46 and if the client request is a query of the information stored in library catalog 46, library server 44 will interact only with the library catalog 46 and will not contact object server 20; and column 6, lines 25-27, wherein an item is a row in an index class and a part is a file within the object server 48 that is stored in an access managed directory structure, Baer).

Claim 13 (New):

Regarding Claim 13, the combination of Wachtel in view of Baer teaches linking the semantic card to at least one of the other semantic cards in the library (Figure 11, all features, wherein It includes a list of pre-published books whose titles are hypertext links to their corresponding PSF files and by clicking on one of these titles 138, the user invokes the EProductGetOutline procure call which retrieves the PSF file, parses it, and wherein it is displayed within Figure 12, Baer).

Prior Art of Record

1. Kroenke et al. (US Patent No. 5,809,297) - discloses a computer-based system for allowing a user to create a relational database schema.
2. Kawai (US Patent No. 5,717,924) discloses an object model comprises one or more semantic objects that represent items about which data is stored in a relational database in a computer system.
3. Wachtel (US Patent No. 6,847,974) discloses an intelligent data assimilation system including an ontology description, workflows, and logical search objects.

Art Unit: 2163

4. Diamant (US Patent No. 5,905,498) discloses computer software and user interface for information management provided in which semantic networks may be entered and analyzed.
5. Baer (US Patent No. 6,839,701) discloses a web-based system, method, and program product are provided for searching content object stored in a data repository as a group of hierarchically related content entities.

Point of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Helene Rose whose telephone number is (571) 272-0749. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am - 4:30pm Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Helene Rose
Technology Center 2100
November 12, 2006



DON WONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100